.(c) whethe rthe Government propose to make available more funds for research and development activities in jute industry in addition to the jute cess fund; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) The figures of cess collected on jute manufactures during last three years were as follows :

Year	cess collected
1993-94	Rs. 1773 lakhs
1994-95	Rs. 1692 lakhs
1995-96	Rs. 1254 lakhs

(b) No amount has been spent on R&D relating to jute industry during the above period from the Cess Fund.

(c) and (d). Government is funding, *inter-alia*, R&D activities under the UNDP assisted national Jute Development Programme in the fields of packaging, ploymerio finishing of jute, jute textiles & non textiles, jute blended yarn, multicomponent yarn from jute, wool and other fibres jute blending in open spinning system, non woven carpets from jute, jute fibre, jute sticks & whole jute stalks for newsprint & paper making.

Tax Dues on Multinational Companies

5781. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of multinational companies are having arrears of various tax dues to the Government alongwith the details;

(b) the steps taken or propose to be taken by Government to recover the tax dues;

(c) the number of cases of evasion of tax have been found so far; and

(d) the action is being contemplated against these tax evaders ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Domestic Supply and Export of Tea by Multinational Companies

5782. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the share of value added tea exports out of total tea exported during each of the last three years;

(b) the share of the Export Promotion Zone (EPZ) units in value added tea exported by the multinational companies; and

(c) the total share in domestic supply and value added tea export turnover of these multinational companies during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Information available with the Tea Board about total tea exports and value added tea exports in the last three years are as under :

(Qty. Mn. Kgs.)(Value : Rs. Crores)

Year	Total Exports of tea		Exports of Value added tea	
	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
1993-94	154.55	1062.06	67.05	500.86
1994-95	152.16	986.41	54.37	395.05
1995-96	163.65	1191.19	84.22	647.10

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Registration of New Companies

5783. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of companies registered by the Registrar of Companies in the country during each of the last three years till date, State-wise;

(b) the number of applications pending with the Registrar of Companies for the registration of new companies, State-wise; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken for the expeditious disposal of these applications ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). The number of companies registered by the Registrar of Companies in the various States/Uts. during the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (till August, 96) and the number of applications pending for registration are given in the Statement attached.

(c) The offices of the Registrars of Companies (ROCs) have been computerised for providing expeditious services to the corporate sector. With the introduction of this facility, the time taken by ROCs in registration of new companies has been considerably reduced. Disposal of the pending applications is also dependent upon the companies having filed complete applications with all information/documents as required under the Companies Act, 1956.